

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 26, 2018

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Defense
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Peter Visclosky
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Defense
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member Visclosky:

I respectfully request additional funding for Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate in Rome, New York in the fiscal Year 2019 Defense Appropriations bill. It is vital that cyber research funding is placed in the forefront as the Appropriations Committee considers further investments into our military capabilities. Specifically, I request that an additional \$7,500,000 be added to the Dominant Information Sciences and Methods Line 13 PE (0602788F) to develop a Cyber Testbed and create a cyber-resilient protocol to develop a firewall around aviation test controls.

This firewall will protect fly-by-wire flight controls, which are currently vulnerable to hacking and cyber intrusion. The aviation platforms used by our military require cyber protection in order to remain effective and uncompromised. As the US Air Force Center of Excellence in Cyber Protection, Rome Lab is at the cutting edge of cyber research and development and remains uniquely qualified in addressing these cyber threats. Congress should equip Rome Lab with the funding it requires to perform the necessary research and development to harden fly-by-wire technologies and other cockpit mission equipment against hacks and cyber-attacks.

I request that an additional \$7,500,000 be provided for the U.S. Air Force's Research, Development Test and Evaluation Budget (LN 13, PE 0602788F Dominant Information Sciences and Methods) to undertake this mission. These funds will enable the Cyber Resilience for Flight Control Technology Research to support the research and development of technologies to passively detect intrusions and ensure that flight control systems remain uncompromised during flight operations.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


CLAUDIA TENNEY
Member of Congress


JOHN KATKO
Member of Congress